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Public Meetings

Taunton River Watershed Project

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2008

# Water and the Future of Your Community: Introductory Slideshow (April 30, 2008 Meeting)

Horsley Witten Group, Inc.

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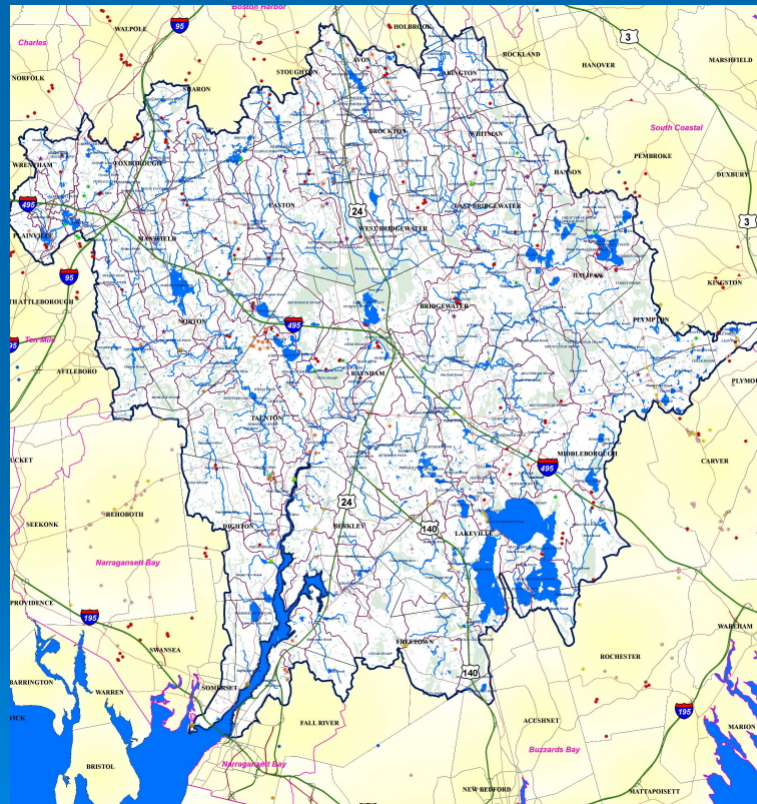
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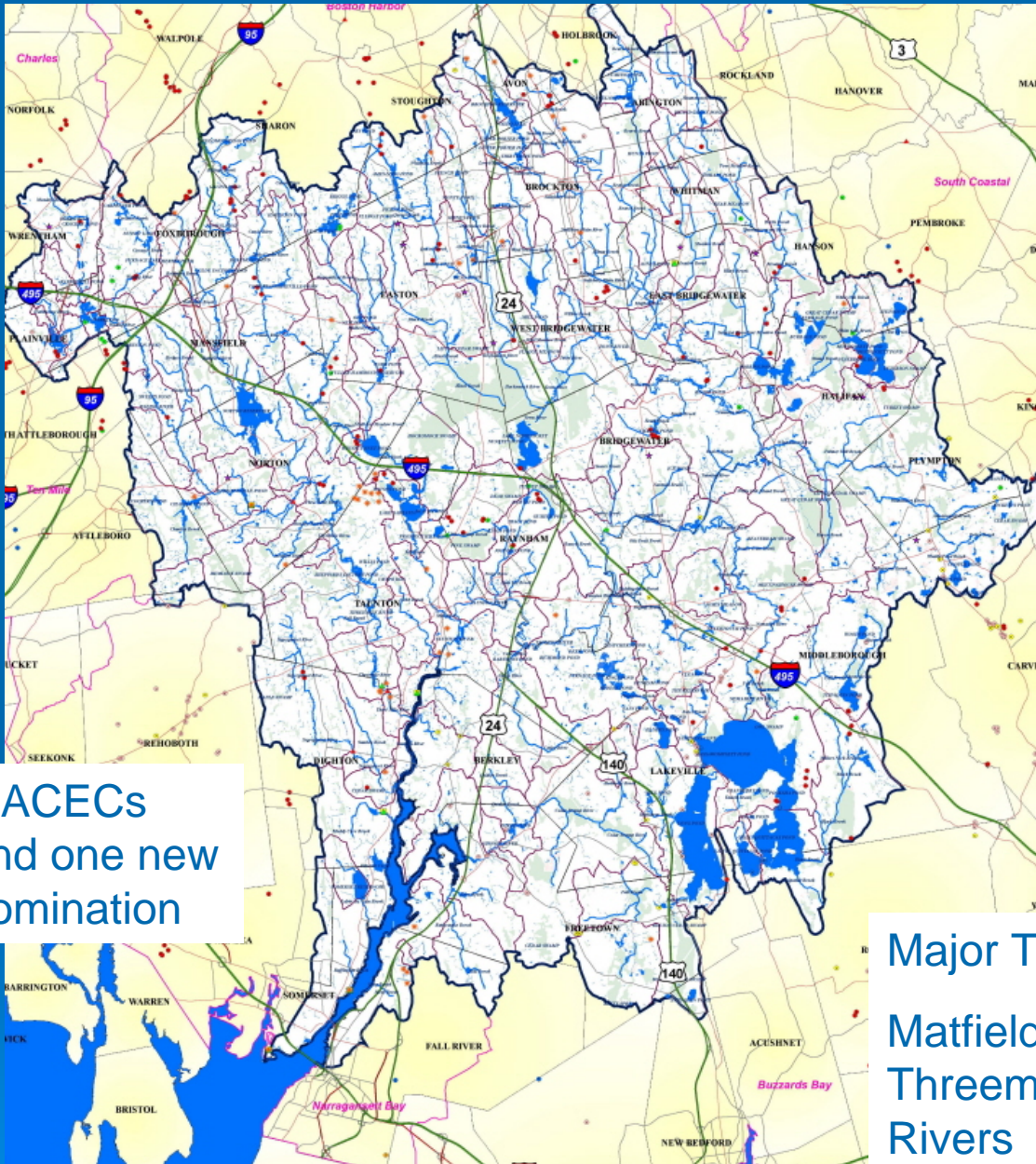
Horsley Witten Group, Inc. (2008). Water and the Future of Your Community: Introductory Slideshow (April 30, 2008 Meeting). *Taunton River Watershed Project Public Meetings*. Item 4.  
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# Water & The Future of Your Community

Taunton River Watershed Study  
April 30, 2008





2 ACECs  
and one new  
nomination

43 Communities

462 Square Miles

21-foot elevation drop  
along Taunton River  
mainstem

Tidally influenced for 18  
miles up from Mount Hope  
Bay

Water withdrawals: 353  
sources at 148 facilities

Wastewater discharges:  
20 large surface  
discharges, 22 large  
groundwater discharges

Major Tributaries:

Matfield, Town, Mill (Canoe),  
Threemile, Nemasket, and Assonet  
Rivers





# Today's Agenda

- I. Taunton River Watershed Study *(15 min.)*
- II. Water Budget Analysis *(30 min)*
- III. Overview of Habitat/Buffer Analysis *(10 min)*
- IV. Overview of Smart Growth Tools *(40 min)*
- V. Group “Smart Growth” Exercises *(50 min)*
- VI. Wrap-Up/ Closing Remarks *(15 min)*



# Co-Sponsors

## Thank you!

- Town of Easton
- Natural Resources Trust of Easton
- Canoe River Aquifer Advisory Committee
- Brockton Conservation Commission
- Taunton River Watershed Alliance



# Taunton River Watershed Study Overview

- Funded through a legislative earmark
- Managed by Bridgewater State College
- Steering Committee:
  - Bridgewater State College's Watershed Access Lab
  - MA State Agencies: MA DCR, MA DEP, MA EOEEA
  - The Nature Conservancy
  - Regional Planning Agencies: SRPEDD, OCPC
- Schedule: March 2007 - August 2008



# Taunton River Watershed Study Goal

To restore and maintain  
a hydrologically and biologically connected  
and integrated watershed system  
that will sustain healthy humans and wildlife.



# Two Phases to the Study

- Phase 1 - Data Gathering/ Preliminary Analysis
  - Gather information and data for a study of the Taunton River Watershed,
  - Perform preliminary analyses,
  - Public education and outreach, and
  - Begin to develop a long-term vision and strategy for the sustainable management of the Taunton River Watershed
- Phase 2 - Develop a Watershed Management Action Plan (Future)





# Key Focus Areas:

- Water Budget
  - Stormwater
  - Wastewater
  - Drinking Water Supply



- Smart Growth and LID

Hockomock Swamp



*photo: Alison Bowden*

- Habitat Impacts



# Top 5 Watershed Concerns

1. Education/training for municipal staff, boards and commissions
2. Public education/outreach on environmental issues
3. Protection of habitat, wetlands, open space
4. The extent of Inappropriate development
5. Quantity of flow and availability of critical habitat in rivers, streams, lakes



# Phase 1 Final Report

## *Completion Target: August 2008*

- I. Introduction
- II. Data Collection Efforts
- III. Public Outreach Efforts
- IV. Subwatershed Analyses
  - Water Budget Analysis
  - Ecological/Buffer Analysis
- V. Smart Growth Case Study: Easton
- VI. Preliminary Recommendations
- VII. Work Plan Outline for Phase 2

